

Message Text

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PAGE 01 REYKJA 00694 201253Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /065 W
-----210212Z 101616 /62

R 201138Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7315
INFO COMICEDEFOR
CINCLANT
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR, IC, US, NATO
SUBJECT: NATO BASE FOES PLAN PORTEST MARCH

1. ICELAND'S SO-CALLED ORGANIZATION OF MILITARY STATION
OPPONENTS HAS SCHEDULED WHAT GROUP HOPES WILL BE MASS
MARCH MAY 21 TO PROTEST PRESENCE HERE OF US-MANNED DEFENSE
FORCE.

2. DEMONSTRATORS WILL SET OFF FROM SITE OF ALUSUISSE ALUMI-
NUM PLANT ON KEFLAVIK-REYKJAVIK ROAD ABOUT 12 MILES FROM
CENTER OF REYKJAVIK. LOCATION CHOSEN, ACCORDING TO SPONSORS,
TO UNDERSCORE CONNECTION BETWEEN BASE AND INTERNATIONAL
CAPITALISM. ALUMINUM PLANT HAS, ADDITIONALLY, COME UNDER
MUCH CRITICISM LATELY AS RESULT OF SEVERE POLLUTANT EFFECT
IT IS ALLEGEDLY HAVING ON ENVIRONMENT.

3. MARCHERS WILL MAKE SEVERAL STOPS TO HEAR SPEAKERS
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PAGE 02 REYKJA 00694 201253Z

AND ENTERTAINERS EN ROUTE TO RALLY IN DOWNTOWN REYK-
JAVIK. ADVERTISING FOR MARCH HAS PUT SO MUCH EMPHASIS
ON ROLE OF ENTERTAINERS AND OPPORTUNITY FOR FAMILY
FUN THAT IN SOME CASES PURPOSE OF DEMONSTRATION HAS
(PROBABLY DELIBERATELY) BEEN OBSCURED.

4. YEAR AGO, WHEN COV WAR EMOTIONS WERE RUNNING HIGH,

MARCH BEGAN WITH FEW HUNDRED AT GATES OF KEFLAVIK
BASE AND SWELLED TO CROWD OF 8-10,000 (POLICE ESTIMATE)
FOR CONCLUDING RALLY. THIS YEAR EXPECTATION IS FOR
SMALLER TURNOUT ALTHOUGH GOOD WEATHER AND ABOVE-
MENTIONED ADVERTISING PITCH COULD INCREASE CROWD.

5. PAST SUCH DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE BEEN GENERALLY
ORDERLY AND PEACEFUL AND EMBASSY NEVER APPEARS TO BE
SINGLED OUT AS TARGET. HOWEVER EMBASSY IS TAKING LOW-
KEY SECURITY PRECAUTIONS FOR ANY EVENTUALITY.
BLAKE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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